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(54) **Arc suppressor for systems supplying electrically conductive coating materials**

(57) An arc suppressor (10) is disclosed which includes at least one cartridge (12) having a housing (16) formed with a first end carrying an electrode (34), a hollow interior and a second end which mounts a cylinder (14) whose piston head is axially movable within the interior of the housing. The electrode (34) of the cartridge (12) and the metal body of the cylinder (14) are each electrically connected by wires to respective grounded and electrostatically charged elements of the voltage

block device associated with a system for supplying electrically conductive coating materials. The piston head of the cylinder (14) is caused to move proximate the electrode (34) carried by the housing (16) sufficiently in advance of the movement of the grounded and charged elements of the voltage block device toward one another so as to induce the formation of an electrostatic discharge or arc within the interior of the cartridge (12) instead of between the elements of the voltage block device.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 2 May 2000	Examiner Innecken, A
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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